

ACCESS HOURLY WATER USE WITH H2KNOW

A 21st century network of water meters and communication devices will now allow you, our customers, to monitor and manage water usage from an online customer portal accessible from both personal computers and mobile devices. The new system, named H2Know, measures and transmits hourly water usage data—older systems could only provide a single monthly usage total. Why is hourly usage important and how can it help you and our city?

With our new system, you will have the power to:

- Receive automatic alerts of higher than normal usage spikes within a day of their occurrence
- Receive automatic alerts of long term continuous usage (indicating possible leaks)
- Establish a monthly “water budget” and be alerted when you reach or exceed your target
- Monitor usage patterns such as irrigation to better manage the frequency and duration of watering
- Save water and save money!

This system will also help the city find and repair its own leaks, better manage its Water Conservation Programs and provide more useful information when you contact us with questions. To access H2Know, you will have to register and we are eager to help you get connected. For information, please call our Customer Care Center at 972-237-8200 or email waterbilling@gptx.org.

COMMUNITY INPUT NEEDED

The City of Grand Prairie is in the process of updating two long-range planning documents — the Master Transportation Plan and the Comprehensive Plan. Please take time to complete the online community survey at gptx.org to help identify our community's needs and influence recommendations for both the City of Grand Prairie's Master Transportation Plan and Comprehensive Plan.

JOSH WINES PRESENTS HOT AUGUST NIGHTS

Enjoy fun Friday nights in August with a great line-up of musical entertainment brought to you by the Grand Prairie Arts Council and Grand Prairie Parks, Arts and Recreation Department.

Fridays in August at 7 p.m. • EpicCentral, 2960 Epic Place

Friday, Aug. 3 - The Vinyl Stripes

Great classics from the 50's and 60's. Surf music, Elvis and rock and roll.

Friday, Aug. 10 - Blane Howard

This Arkansas native embraces the country music greats with his own flair.

Friday, Aug. 17 - Memphis Soul

Motown and classic dance band.

Friday, Aug. 24 - Mood Swings All-Star Jazz Combo

Classic and smooth jazz to delight your ears and sooth your soul.

FARMERS MARKET



The Farmers Market, 120 W. Main St., is open from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays. For info., call 972-237-4599 or visit gptx.org/farmersmarket.

Saturday, August 4

Mrs. Ruthe's Fig and Fudge Day
Get some figs and sweets in support of the Lifeline Shelter.

Saturday, Aug. 11

Scrappy presents Dog Daze of Summer

Saturday, August 18

Hatch Chile Festival
Hot roasted Hatch chiles, food and music.

Saturday, Aug. 25

National Tailgating Day
Football fun all morning!

SUMMER READING CLUB FINALE

Saturday, August 18

10 a.m.-noon

Main Library

901 Conover Dr.



Join us for our Summer Reading Club finale with the Perot Museum Tech Truck and Kidz Science Safari.

Be amazed by these incredible, hands-on science experiments and STEAM activities!

FIREHOUSE RESTAURANT AND BAR COMING

The retired Fire Station No. 1, 321 Main St., is getting a facelift. As part of a revitalization project in downtown Grand Prairie, City Council approved a 5-year tenant lease with FireHouse Gastro Park LLC to restore the old Fire House into a restaurant and bar.

The restaurant will serve artisanal foods using local ingredients and will have beer, wine and handcrafted cocktails for lunch and dinner. It will also feature a coffee, juice and kombucha lounge, a spacious outdoor seating area, an outdoor stage and space for food trucks.

Construction is expected to begin Fall 2018 with the goal to open Spring 2019.

WE WANT YOUR RECYCLABLES EMPTY, CLEAN AND DRY!

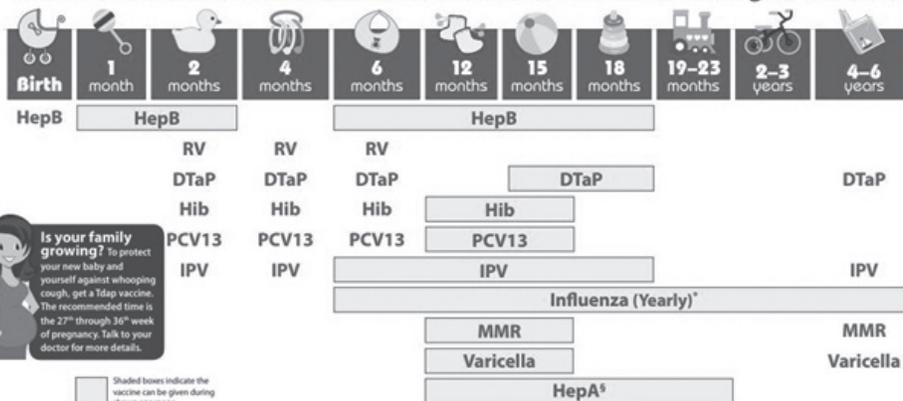
Recyclables should be empty, clean and dry. "Wishful recycling" or tossing items in the recycling bin that you hope are recyclable or think should be recyclable could potentially contaminate tons of good recyclable materials that are then sent back to the landfill. "Wishful recycling" can do more harm than good. Look at the side of your green recycling bin to check whether an item is accepted for recycling. Not sure? When in doubt, toss it out. For more information on recycling, please visit <http://www.gptx.org/recycling> or call 972-237-8061.

KEEP ANIMALS HEALTHY THIS SUMMER

Keep animals healthy during the hot summer months.

- Walk dogs early in the morning or in the evening when it's cooler outside.
- If animals are kept outside, always have shelter for them to get out of extreme weather. Keep a wading pool full of water for them to cool off in.
- Make sure your furry friend has cool water in a tip-proof bowl. Metal bowls can get hot, so always put them in the shade.
- Pets should be well groomed, but don't shave off all hair to keep them cool. A pet's coat can actually protect them from sunburn and overheating!
- NEVER leave your pet in a hot car—even with the windows cracked!

2018 Recommended Immunizations for Children from Birth Through 6 Years Old



For more information, please visit www.gptx.org/getfitgp

Source: Center for Disease Control

CYCLIN' WITH THE MAYOR

Join Mayor Ron Jensen for 5-mile bike rides: gptx.org/getfitgp. Riders of all ages and skill levels are encouraged to join the casual ride. Meet at 6 p.m. Ride begins at 6:30 p.m.



Tuesday, July 24

Loyd Park "Back the Blue" Ride
3401 Ragland Road

Tuesday, Aug. 28

Nottingham Ride
Meet at Larson Elementary
2620 Avenue K

DON'T BLOCK THE WALK

Did you know it is a violation of the law to block



the city sidewalk with your vehicle? Sidewalks are considered public right-of-way and Grand Prairie city ordinance, as well as the Texas Transportation Code, prohibits vehicles from stopping, standing or parking on a sidewalk. If you are unable to park your vehicle in your driveway without blocking the sidewalk, please park in your garage or park legally in the street. Pedestrians will thank you.

For more information on the sidewalk ordinance, please call City of Grand Prairie Code Compliance at 972-237-8296 or visit gptx.org/code-compliance.

SUMMIT SOCK HOP

Saturday, Aug. 18, 7-9:30 p.m.

The Summit, 2975 Esplanade
\$12 per person. Open to the public ages 21 and older. Dance to rock and roll oldies. For info.: 972-237-4141.



NEW GRAND PRAIRIE DRIVER LICENSE OFFICE

The Texas Department of Public Safety has opened a new driver license office at 701 North Bagdad Road, Grand Prairie, TX 75050. To get in line online and for info., visit dps.texas.gov, or call the office at 972-343-2520.

MEET COUNCILMAN COLE HUMPHREYS

Where were you born?

Arlington Memorial Hospital, but we lived in Grand Prairie.

Where did you grow up?

Grand Prairie. In District 5 my entire life, with the exception of my college years.

Where did you receive your education?

Turnpike Christian, Austin Elementary and Eisenhower Elementary, Adams Middle School and Grand Prairie High School. I also attended community college and the University of Texas at Arlington where I studied business management and Spanish linguistics.

Tell us about your career?

I was still taking college classes when I started my insurance business. I sell property and casualty, life and health, auto, home and commercial insurance. I'm also an insurance adjuster and remodel and manage property.

What about your family?

I have a brother Lt. Col. Dr. Clay Humphreys, and my sister Shelby is foreman at a 2,500 acre ranch in Graford, Texas. My dad, Mark, is an attorney in Grand Prairie and my mom, Lisa, teaches yoga. My grandparents also live in Grand Prairie. My grandfather, Charles Miller, served 39 years in the Grand Prairie Police Department, part of that time as interim Police Chief.

What about your community involvement?

I serve on the Children First Advisory Board where I was president for two years, and Grand Prairie High School Alumni Association where I served as president for two years. I'm a member of the Rotary Club where I was Sargent at Arms for three years and Pumpkin Run Pumpkin Man for two years. I have also been a member of the Grand Prairie Chamber of Commerce and Executive Board.

What made you want to run for City Council?

My hometown, District 5, is like a small town within Grand Prairie. I want to be able to help people here and give back. I feel like I can assist constituents with city services that they need—city government can seem so big. My goals are to reinvent the historic Fire Station No. 1, help with development on I-30—hopefully retail and restaurants, add more life to the Uptown Theater and really just be there for my constituents. I gave out my cell phone number during my campaign. We need to ramp up improvements downtown and continue to provide a great quality of life for Grand Prairie residents through city services and positive growth.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I enjoy live music and I work part-time at Verizon Theater. I also like camping, outdoor activities, water sports and gardening. I remodel and manage property and traveled to Costa Rica where I enjoyed a Spanish immersion experience while living with a family. I'm also a member of Calvary Baptist Church.



FALL GARDENING

The Grand Prairie Main Library hosts City Horticulturist and Arborist Susan Henson for



two free gardening programs. Join us and find out how you can not only grow your own organic vegetables in the fall but also how to develop a plan to landscape your home. Need to know more about how to plant and prune trees? These classes will take the mystery out of Fall Gardening.

- Wednesday, Sept. 5: Fall into Vegetable Gardening
- Wednesday, Sept. 12: Landscape Design Fundamentals

Each program will be from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The Main Library is located at 901 Conover Dr.

Susan Henson will show you how to increase your property values and reduce your grocery bill. Fall gardening takes less water, weeding and insect control but most of all it is cooler! These programs are made possible by the Grand Prairie Parks, Arts and Recreation Department.

FIGHT BACK BY KNOWING THE FACTS

- Anyone can get bit by mosquitoes
- Peak biting hours are from dawn to dusk
- Use an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellents
- Wear light colored, long-sleeved shirts and pants
- Eliminate standing water where mosquitos breed
- Make sure roof gutters are clean
- Repair leaky outdoor faucets and hoses

KNOW THE FACTS

Learn more facts at gptx.org/FighttheBite

AVOID HEAT STROKE

High temperatures, like the kind we experience in the North Texas Region in the summer, along with high humidity, can cause heat-related illnesses which range in severity from mild heat cramps, to heat exhaustion, to potentially life-threatening heatstroke.



To help with the heat, drink plenty of water and visit one of the many Grand Prairie recreation centers and libraries to cool off. Come see what great resources and programs our grand city has to offer.

Recreation Centers:

grandfungp.com/recreationcenters/default.htm

Libraries:

gptx.org/residents/library

For additional information on extreme heat as well as signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion, visit the KnowWhat2Do website.

<http://knowwhat2do.com/severe-weather/heat-drought-wildfire/>

If you have questions, contact Grand Prairie's Office of Emergency Management at 972-237-8333 or email: oem@gptx.org.

BUILD RESPONSIBLY

Permits are required for all development within the City of Grand Prairie. The city's building codes and ordinances guide and regulate construction in floodplains. Without these provisions, federally-backed flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) would not be available. Any development in the floodplain without a permit is illegal and should be reported to the Stormwater Department at 972-237-8321.

As a condition of participation in the NFIP, the city has adopted Floodplain Management practices through several ordinances that limit development allowed in the 1% annual chance (100-year) floodplain. The City of Grand Prairie ordinances require all new structures be constructed at least 2 feet above the existing condition base flood elevation or 1 foot above the "ultimate" base flood elevation, whichever is higher. Mobile homes are required to be 3 feet above the base flood elevation. The city requires a Floodplain Development Permit for proposed improvements within 200 feet of 1% annual chance floodplain. When developing along a creek within the City of Grand Prairie, the developer must submit a flood study to the city showing the 1% annual chance floodplain and water surface elevation based on both current land-use and ultimate land-use assumptions. The flood study must prove that the base flood elevations and valley storage are maintained.

Properties with any portion of the 1% annual chance floodplain, regardless of structure location, may be required by a mortgage lender to obtain a flood insurance policy.

The city's Stormwater Department is available to make site visits to residents' property to review flooding issues, drainage and stormwater problems, and provide one-on-one suggestions to property owners pertaining to development, renovation, and flood protection measures.

PHOTO CONTEST

Grand Prairie residents are invited to enter the 2019 City Calendar Photo Contest. Entries accepted through October 1, 2018. A panel of judges will select photos most appropriate for the 2019 City calendar.

Photo must feature Grand Prairie and be suitable for publication. Photos will be used in city publications. Credit will be attributed in calendar, but may not be possible in other publications and uses. Winning photos will be published in the calendar. No cash awards will be offered. Entrants must include name, address, email address and phone number with entry. Winners will be notified by December 2018. The calendar will be printed in December 2018.

Email or mail entries to:

Amy Sprinkles
Communications and Marketing
City of Grand Prairie
P.O. Box 534045
Grand Prairie, Texas 75053
asprinkles@gptx.org

AWARD-WINNING CITY SERVICES

The City of Grand Prairie's **Housing and Neighborhood Services Department's** Future Builders Program was named the Best Neighborhood Program in the nation by Neighborhoods USA, a national non-profit organization committed to building and strengthening neighborhood organizations. The Housing Department partners with Grand Prairie ISD and uses Grand Prairie High School Career Technical Education students to frame a new home that will be sold to eligible recipients.

The city's **Information Technology Department** received a 2018 Excellence Award from the Texas Association of Governmental Information Technology Managers for automating the Water Department's Unidirectional Flushing process.

	GO GRAND! WITH THESE FALL EVENTS	Book Online! VISITGRANDPRAIRIETX.COM
TEXAS AIRHOGS Home Games August 14-19 & 21-25	FARMERS MARKET Hatch Chile Fest August 18	VERIZON THEATRE Lost 80s Live August 24
LOYD PARK Movies on the Beach Every Saturday	TRADERS VILLAGE Tejano Music Fest August 25	